

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-4 are amended. Substantive amendments to claims 1 and 3 introduce no new matter in that they are supported by at least by page 10, line 18 - page 11, line 22 of the specification as originally filed. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 1, objects to claims 2-4 for certain informalities. Claims 2-4 are amended to obviate the objections in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestions as enumerated in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objections to claims 2-4 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 3, rejects claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,583,352 to Fukushima et al. (hereinafter "Fukushima"). The Office Action, in paragraph 5 rejects claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukushima. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Fukushima teaches an electromagnetic shielding structure for connecting electric wires to terminals of a motor and general electronic equipment (col. 1, lines 5-8). Specifically, Fukushima discloses an electrically conductive and cylindrical sealing terminal 25 is fitted to the outer circumferential surface of the stopper holder 23. An end part of a skirt portion of the braid 14 is widened and connected to the outer circumferential surface of such a shielding terminal 25 in such a way as to cover the outer circumferential surface thereof. The end part of the skirt portion of the braid 14 is tightly fastened by an electrically conductive metallic band-like clamp 26 from the outside and thus, inserted into and fixedly attached to between the shield terminal 25 and the clamp 26 (col. 5, lines 18-27). Fukushima further discloses that, in order to make the fixed attachment between the braid and the sealing

terminal "more rigid and reliable," spot welding may be performed from the outside of the clamp thus, rigidly welding the braid 14 to the shielding terminal 25 (col. 5, lines 27-33).

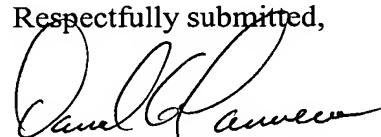
Claims 1 and 3 recite, among other features, the terminal shielding member and the intermediate shielding member being conductively connected to each other by having a front end portion of the intermediate shielding member and a rear end portion of terminal shielding member clamped between an underlay pipe and a clamp ring.

Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere in Fukushima is there a teaching of employing an underlay pipe in order, for example, to increase rigidity of the conductive connection between an intermediate shielding member and a terminal shielding member. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 3 are neither anticipated by, nor unpatentable over, Fukushima. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 2 and 4 are also not anticipated by, or unpatentable over, Fukushima for at least their respective dependence on independent claims 1 and 3.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-4 as being anticipated by, or unpatentable over, Fukushima are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-4 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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